**WASHINGTON –** U.S. Representatives Mark Kirk (R-IL) and Dennis Moore (D-KS) joined their colleagues in the House of Representatives today to approve legislation authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of veterans who became disabled for life while serving in the U.S. Armed Forces.  The revenue gained from the new coin would help fund a national memorial honoring those veterans.

The American Veterans Disabled for Life Commemorative Coin Act, H.R. 634, was introduced by Kirk and Moore with the endorsement of the Disabled Veterans LIFE Memorial Foundation.

"We owe our disabled veterans a considerable debt for their sacrifices," said Congressman Kirk.  "This bill will help generate the necessary funds for a memorial near the nation's Capitol - one that appropriately honors their service.  As a naval reserve officer, I am proud that Congress is taking action to preserve the legacy of these heroes."

"More and more of our brave men and women are returning home with injuries that will affect them for the rest of their lives," Moore said.  "We can never fully communicate our gratitude for the service and sacrifice that our servicemen and women have made for our country, but this memorial is an important step.  I'm grateful that my colleagues have joined me in this effort and hope that the Senate will consider this measure in the near future, so we can make this memorial a reality sooner rather than later."

Commanding an impressive two-acre site within full view of the U.S. Capitol, the Memorial will be located adjacent to the National Mall, and across Independence Avenue from the U.S. Botanic Garden, at Washington Avenue (Canal Street) and Second Street, SW.   It will be the nation's first physical tribute specifically honoring America's three million living disabled veterans and the countless thousands who have since died.

H.R. 634 now moves to the Senate for consideration.  More information regarding the memorial can be found at  http://www.avdlm.com/ .